

HB 2412 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Education

Prepared By: Matt Perreault, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 3/18, 3/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$500,000 to Higher Education Coordinating Commission to award grant to College Possible organization to assist low-income students to attend post-secondary institution. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Diversity of students served by college access programs
- Funding from Governor's recommended budget
- Reasoning for selection of programs named
- Graduation rates for students who participate
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on college enrollments
- Difficulty and complexity of college admission and financial aid application process

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Replaces measure. Appropriates \$1,000,000 to Higher Education Coordinating Commission for Access to Student Assistance Programs in Reach of Everyone (ASPIRE) program. Appropriates moneys to Higher Education Coordinating Commission to issue grants of \$1,000,000 to College Possible organization, Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) organization, BUILD EXITO program at Portland State University, and Oregon TRIO organization. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

BACKGROUND:

Nonprofit college access organizations work to promote access to higher education for students to students who come from low-income backgrounds, underrepresented communities, are English language learners, or would be first-generation college students. These organizations operate a variety of programs, such as partnerships with schools to offer supplemental educational assistance in K-12 settings.

The Access to Student Assistance Programs in Reach of Everyone (ASPIRE) program was established by the Legislative Assembly in 2007 as part of House Bill 2729. This program connects high school students with volunteer mentors to offer assistance with scholarships and other financial aid opportunities in higher education.

House Bill 2412 appropriates moneys to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to the General Fund to issue grants to college access organizations.